



Beaverton Police Department

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Chief Geoff Spalding



NEWS RELEASE

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Simple Shoplift Bust Leads to Large Scale Burglary Ring

Released: December 28, 2011
Case No: 11-9021

On Monday, December 26, 2011, at 11:24 a.m., the Beaverton Police Department was called to a shoplift occurring now at Home Depot 13700 NW Science Park Drive, Beaverton. A customer had reported two males running out of the business with a shopping cart full of merchandise and loading it onto a waiting utility trailer. They had used the emergency exit on the west side of the building.

Although the suspects left before police arrived witnesses provided a description of the car, a black Toyota 4-Runner, and the license plate. Officers were able to locate the vehicle and trailer near SW Cedar Hills Boulevard and SW Barnes Road, still occupied.

Once the officers stopped the Toyota and detained the occupants they were able to recover over \$1,200.00 worth of Home Depot merchandise and return it to the business. All three subjects in the vehicle were arrested for Theft in the first degree: 34 year old William George Hazelwood III (transient), 45 year old Michael Sean O'Sullivan of Beaverton and 35 year old Charles Daniel Smith of Tualatin.

While interviewing the suspect's investigators learned that they had been up to much more than stealing from Home Depot. They had many other stolen items in the 4-Runner and also told of storage lockers full of items.

Detectives were called to assist and have since recovered a large number of items. A small list of items that have been returned to their owners are two ski boats, three enclosed utility trailers, a 24 foot RV, miscellaneous computers and equipment from local businesses and restaurants, numerous tools and equipment from various construction sites as well as appliances from new residential construction sites.

The arrest of these three suspects cleared approximately 15 cases: two Clackamas County Sheriff's Office cases, three Tigard Police Department cases, two Sherwood Police Department cases, and eight Tualatin Police Department cases. The total amount of merchandise or stolen items recovered thus far is \$484,441.00.

The investigation is still ongoing and additional items continue to be recovered and returned to the rightful owner. Consequently any charges against O'Sullivan, Smith, and Hazelwood are pending the completion of the investigation and will be presented to the Washington County District Attorney's Office for consideration.

##BPD##